

REMARKS

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner has rejected claims 23-26, 30-40, and 44-52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Baer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,611,840 B1). The independent claims 23 and 37 have been amended to include the claim elements of claims 27 and 41, respectively. The Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the claims as amended are not anticipated by Baer because the Examiner stated that the claims 27-29 and 41-43 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Petition for Extension of Time Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a)

Applicant respectfully petitions pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) for a one-month extension of time to file this response to the Office Action mailed April 8, 2005. The extended period is set to expire on August 8, 2005. A check in the amount of \$120.00 is enclosed to cover the fee for a one-month extension of time.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a)(3), applicant(s) hereby request and authorize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to (1) treat any concurrent or future reply that requires a petition for extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time and (2) charge all required fees, including extension of time fees and fees under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Application No. 09/608,612
Amendment filed: August 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action of April 8, 2005

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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Heather M. Molleur
Reg. No. 50,432

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1026
(408) 720-8300